



Status of MODIS SR



MODIS SR Product suite

Collection 6: (Released in 2015)

Bands 1 through 7

250m, 500m, 0.05 deg.

Daily, 8 days

Status and Updates:

- MODIS SR collection 6 (LaSRC: Land Surface Reflectance Code) is the basis for a variety of SR product (VIIRS, AVHRR, Landsat, Sentinel 2) assuring consistency and traceability in the SR products from multiple satellites/instruments.
- Validation stage IV (AERONET) and cross-comparison with MODIS is on-going.

Known Issues:

- None

Recent Publications:

- Doxani, G., Vermote, E., Roger, J.C., Gascon, F., Adriaensen, S., Frantz, D., Hagolle, O., Hollstein, A., Kirches, G., Li, F. and Louis, J., 2018. Atmospheric correction inter-comparison exercise. Remote Sensing, 10(2), p.352.
- Skakun, S., Franch, B., Vermote, E., Roger, J.C., Becker-Reshef, I., Justice, C. and Kussul, N., 2017. Early season large-area winter crop mapping using MODIS NDVI data, growing degree days information and a Gaussian mixture model. Remote Sensing of Environment, 195, pp.244-258.
- Breon F.M., Vermote E.F., Murphy E., Franch B., (2015) Measuring the directional variations of land surface reflectances from MODIS, IEEE transactions on Geoscience and Remote Sensing, 53 (8), 4638-4649.

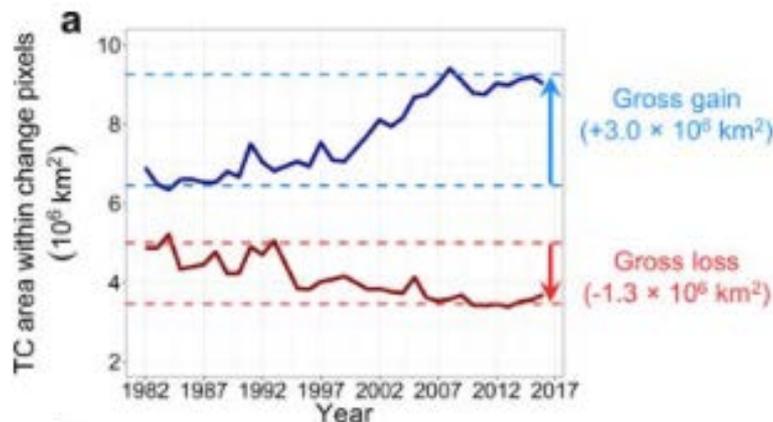
nature
International journal of science

Letter | Published: 08 August 2018

Global land change from 1982 to 2016

Xiao-Peng Song , Matthew C. Hansen, Stephen V. Stehman, Peter V. Potapov, Alexandra Tyukavina, Eric F. Vermote & John R. Townshend

Nature 560, 639–643 (2018) | [Download Citation](#) 



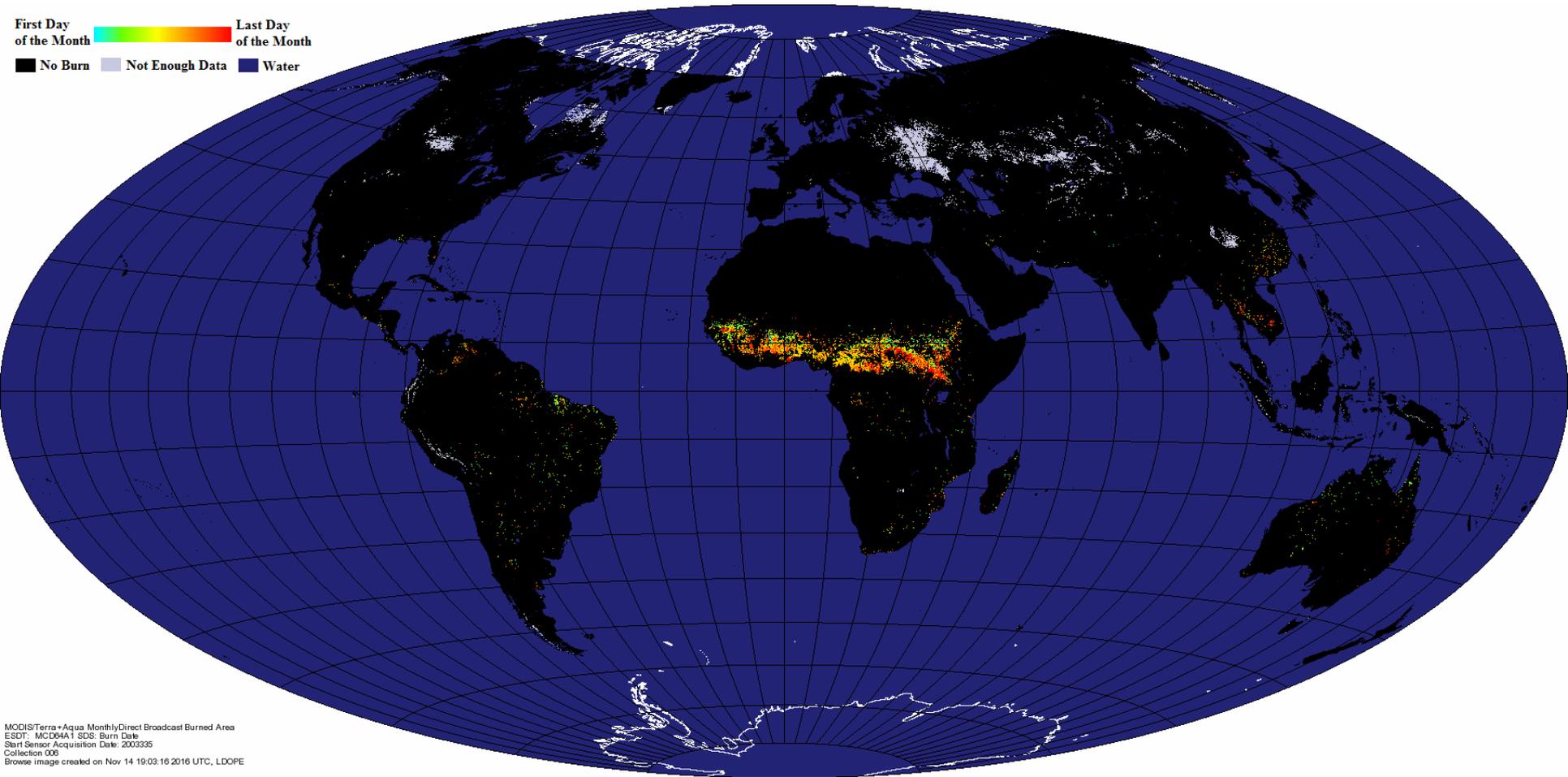
“Contrary to popular opinion, tree cover increased by 2.24 million square kilometers (more than 850,000 square miles), an increase of about 7 percent during the time period.”



Development of a Global Burned Area Earth System Data Record



Louis Giglio¹, Luigi Boschetti², David Roy³, Varaprasad Bandaru¹, Chris Justice¹
¹University of Maryland, ²University of Idaho, ³South Dakota State University



December 2003 MODIS Burned Area Product



Status of MODIS Burned Area



MODIS Burned Area Product

Collection 6: (released 2017)

- MCD64A1: Monthly L3 500 m SIN Grid
- MCD64CMH: Monthly CMG (released 2018)

Status and Updates:

- Stage-2 validation complete.
- Stage-3 validation in preparation.

Known Issues:

- Edge fix for 26 tiles (patch 6.0.8).

Recent Publications:

- Giglio, L., Boschetti, L., Roy, D. P., Humber, M. L., and Justice, C. O., 2018, The Collection 6 MODIS burned area mapping algorithm and product. *Remote Sensing of Environment*, 217:72–85.
- Humber, M. L., Boschetti, L., Giglio, L., and Justice, C. O., 2018, Spatial and temporal intercomparison of four global burned area products, *International Journal of Digital Earth*.
- Andela et al., 2017, A human-driven decline in global burned area. *Science*, 356:1356-1362.



RESEARCH ARTICLES | ECOLOGY

A human-driven decline in global burned area

N. Andela^{1,2*}, D. C. Morton¹, L. Giglio³, Y. Chen², G. R. van der Werf⁴, P. S. Kasibhatla⁵, R. S. DeFries⁶, G. J. Collatz¹, S. Han...

+ See all authors and affiliations

Science 30 Jun 2017:
Vol. 356, Issue 6345, pp. 1356-1362
DOI: 10.1126/science.aal4108

Article Figures & Data Info & Metrics eLetters PDF

Burn less, baby, burn less

Humans have, and always have had, a major impact on wildfire activity, which is expected to increase in our warming world. Andela *et al.* use satellite data to show that, unexpectedly, global burned area declined by ~25% over the past 18 years, despite the influence of climate. The decrease has been largest in savannas and grasslands because of agricultural expansion and intensification. The decline of burned area has consequences for predictions of future changes to the atmosphere, vegetation, and the terrestrial carbon sink.

Science, this issue p. 1356



Status of MODIS Active Fire



MODIS Active Fire Products

Collection 6: (released 2015)

- MOD14/MYD14: Terra/Aqua L2 Swath
- MOD14A1/MYD14A1: L3 Daily 500-m SIN Grid
- MOD14A2/MYD14A2: L3 8-day 500 m SIN Grid
- MCD14ML: Monthly fire locations

Status and Updates:

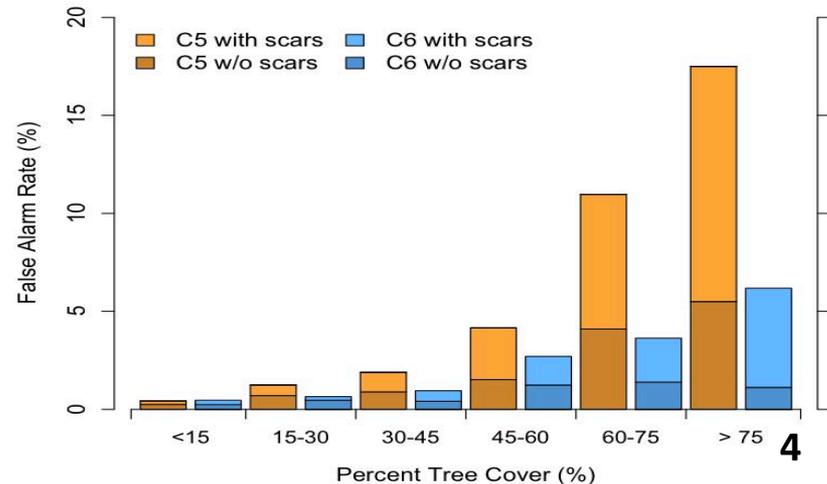
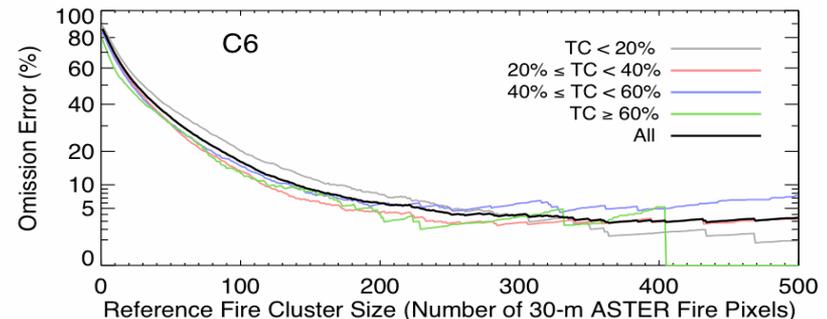
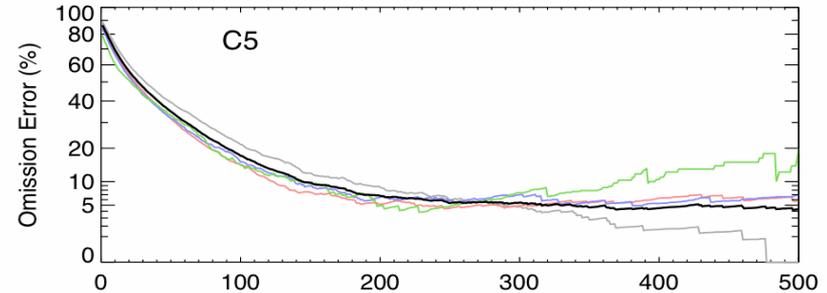
- Widely used mature product.
- Stage-2 validated.

Known Issues:

- None.

Recent Publications:

- Giglio, L., Schroeder, W., and Justice, C. O., 2016, The collection 6 MODIS active fire detection algorithm and fire products. *Remote Sensing of Environment*, 178, 31-41.





Status of MODIS GPP/NPP, ET/PET products and an LST for fun.



MODIS GPP/NPP and ET/PET products.

Collection 6:

- MOD17A3H: MODIS/Terra Annually L4 500 m SIN Grid
- MYD17A3H: MODIS/Aqua Annually L4 500 m SIN Grid
- MOD17A2H: MODIS/Terra 8-day L4 500 m SIN Grid
- MYD17A2H: MODIS/Aqua 8-day L4 500 m SIN Grid
- MOD16A3: MODIS/Terra Annually L4 500 m SIN Grid
- MYD16A3: MODIS/Aqua Annually L4 500 m SIN Grid
- MOD16A2: MODIS/Terra 8-day L4 500 m SIN Grid
- MYD16A2: MODIS/Aqua 8-day L4 500 m SIN Grid

Status and Updates:

- *Creation of an optimized FPAR/LAI climatology.*
- *This climatology will be used to obtain gap free GPP/NPP and ET/PET products for the upcoming collection 6.1.*

Known Issues:

- Important gaps due to cloud contamination in heavily clouded areas.

Recent Publications:

- Alvaro Moreno, Gustau Camps-Valls, Jens Kattge, Nathaniel Robinson, Markus Reichstein, ..., Steven W. Running (2018). A methodology to derive global maps of leaf traits using remote sensing and climate data, **Remote Sensing of Environment**, 218, 69-88.
- Madani, N., Kimball, J. S., Ballantyne, A. P., Affleck, D. L., Bodegom, P. M., Reich, P. B., ... & Zhao, M. (2018). Future global productivity will be affected by plant trait response to climate. **Scientific reports**, 8(1), 2870.
- He, M., Kimball, J. S., Maneta, M. P., Maxwell, B. D., Moreno, A., Beguería, S., & Wu, X. (2018). Regional Crop Gross Primary Productivity and Yield Estimation Using Fused Landsat-MODIS Data. **Remote Sensing**, 10(3), 372.
- Jones, M. O., Running, S. W., Kimball, J. S., Robinson, N. P., & Allred, B. W. (2018). Terrestrial primary productivity indicators for inclusion in the National Climate Indicators System. **Climatic Change**, 1-14.
- David J. Mildrexler, Maosheng Zhao, Warren B. Cohen, Steven W. Running, Xiaopeng Song, Matthew O. Jones. 2018, Thermal Anomalies Detect Critical Global Land Surface Changes. **J. Applied Meteorology and Climatology**, 57, 391-411.

www.nature.com/scientificreports

SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

OPEN

Future global productivity will be affected by plant trait response to climate

Received: 29 September 2017
Accepted: 31 January 2018
Published online: 12 February 2018

Nima Madani^{1,2}, John S. Kimball^{1,2}, Ashley P. Ballantyne^{3,4}, David L. R. Affleck⁵, Peter M. van Bodegom⁶, Peter B. Reich^{5,6}, Jens Kattge^{7,8}, Anna Sala⁹, Mona Nazeri¹⁰, Matthew O. Jones¹, Maosheng Zhao¹¹ & Steven W. Running^{1,2}

Plant traits are both responsive to local climate and strong predictors of primary productivity. We hypothesized that future climate change might promote a shift in global plant traits resulting in changes in Gross Primary Productivity (GPP). We characterized the relationship between key plant traits, namely Specific Leaf Area (SLA), height, and seed mass, and local climate and primary productivity. We found that by 2070, tropical and arid ecosystems will be more suitable for plants with relatively lower canopy height, SLA and seed mass, while far northern latitudes will favor woody and taller plants than at present. Using a network of tower eddy covariance CO₂ flux measurements and the extrapolated plant trait maps, we estimated the global distribution of annual GPP under current and projected future plant community distribution. We predict that annual GPP in northern biomes ($\geq 45^{\circ}\text{N}$) will increase by 31% ($+8.1 \pm 0.5 \text{ Pg C}$), but this will be offset by 17.9% GPP decline in the tropics ($-11.8 \pm 0.84 \text{ Pg C}$). These findings suggest that regional climate changes will affect plant trait distributions, which may in turn affect global productivity patterns.

Climate change is expected to significantly influence global species distributions in the next decades^{1,2}, which raises the question of how these changes may affect dominant plant community traits and ecosystem productivity. The response of species to climate change can vary from extinction to resilience³. However, plant species may also adapt to climate change by altering their physical traits⁴ or by relocating to regions with more suitable environmental conditions⁵. Increases in shrub dominance in the tundra⁶ and declines in taller, larger diameter trees in California in the last century, inducing a shift toward oak dominance over historic pine dominance⁷, provide recent examples of such changes.

Temperature, water supply and solar radiation are primary climatic factors constraining ecosystem productivity at global scales^{8,9} such that each or a combination of these factors limits vegetation growth within global biomes defined by species with distinctive traits and/or life history strategies. From the ecosystem process perspective, vegetation productivity has increased in recent decades^{8,9}. Plant productivity may be enhanced through direct fertilization effects from increasing atmospheric CO₂ concentrations^{10,11}. However, concomitant changes in temperature and rainfall can also alter productivity by extending the growing season in cold regions, while limiting productivity in warmer and drier regions¹². A key, unresolved question is how changes in precipitation and temperature will affect species functional traits and what impact changes in traits and plant communities will have on patterns of global productivity.

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Status of Terra/Aqua MODIS BRDF, Albedo and NBAR

MODIS BRDF Albedo NBAR Products

Collection V006:

- MCD43A: 500 m SIN grid
- MCD43A1: BRDF/Albedo Model Parameters
- MCD43A2: BRDF/Albedo Quality
- MCD43A3: Albedo
- MCD43A4: NBAR
- MCD43C: 0.05 degree CMG
- MCD43C1: CMG BRDF/Albedo Model Parameters
- MCD43C2: CMG BRDF/Albedo Model Snow-Free Parameters
- MCD43C3: CMG Albedo
- MCD43C4: CMG NBAR
- MCD43D: 30 Arc-Second CMG (1 – 40)
- MCD43GF: CMG Gap-Filled Snow-Free

Status and Updates:

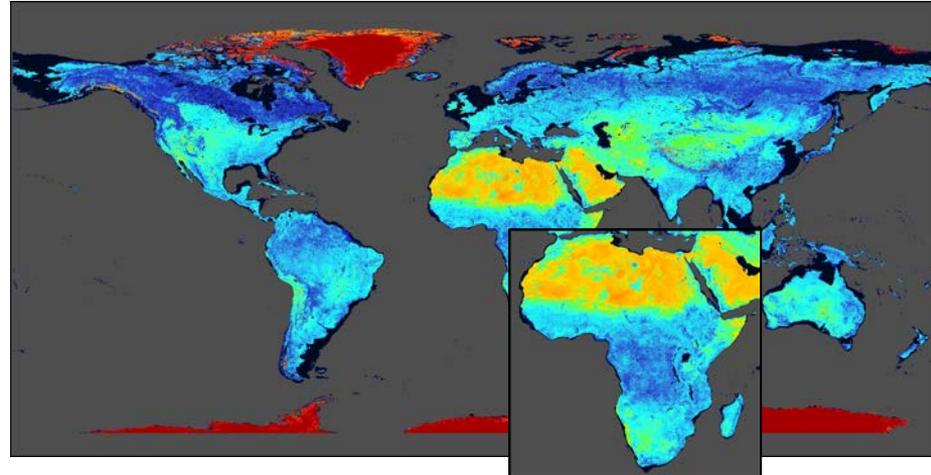
- New daily retrievals are being used extensively for phenology studies.
- Snow free Gap Filled V006 products (MCD43GF) are under production

Known Issues:

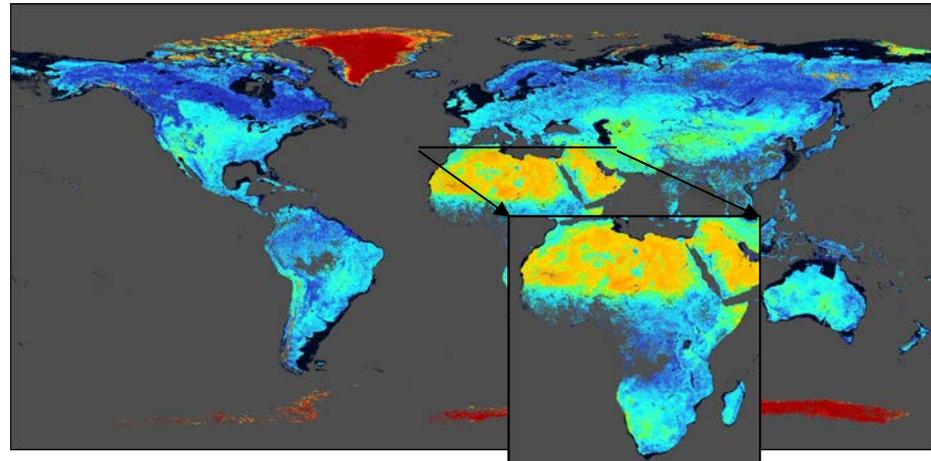
- None

Recent Publications:

- Wang, Z., Schaaf, C. B., Sun, Q., Shuai, Y., & Román, M. O. (2018). Capturing Rapid Land Surface Dynamics with Collection V006 MODIS BRDF/NBAR/Albedo (MCD43) Products. *Remote Sensing of Environment*, 207(February), 50–64. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rse.2018.02.001>
- Sun, Q., Wang, Z., Li, Z., Erb, A., & Schaaf, C. B. (2017). Evaluation of the Global MODIS 30 Arc-Second Spatially and Temporally Complete Snow-Free Land Surface Albedo and Reflectance Anisotropy Dataset. *International Journal of Applied Earth Observation and Geoinformation*, 58, 36–49. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jag.2017.01.011>



MCD43GF: DOY250, 2010
Shortwave Broadband WSA



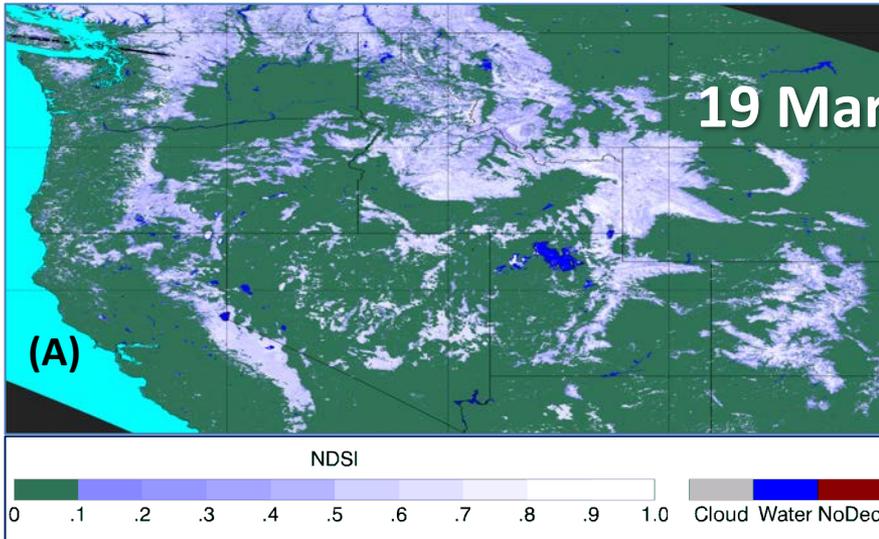
MCD43D61: DOY250, 2010
Shortwave Broadband WSA



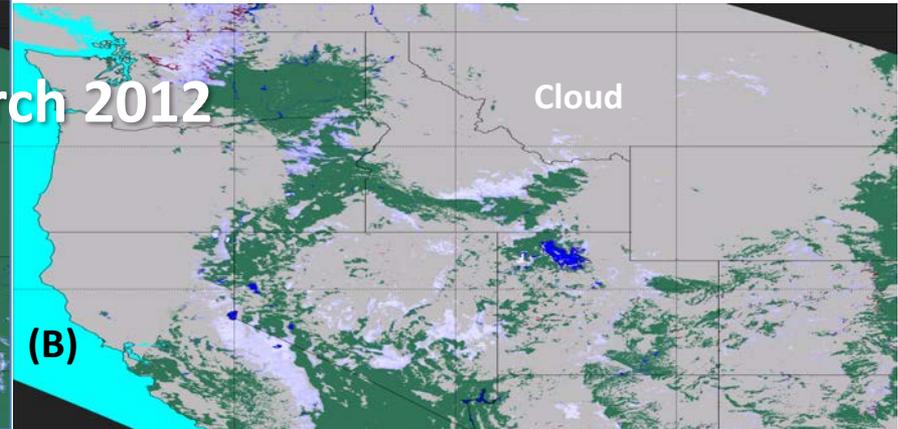
Generating continuous time series of daily snow cover with the MODIS Cloud-Gap-Filled (CGF) Product

Dorothy Hall¹ and George Riggs²
¹ESSIC / University of Maryland, ²SSAI

Cloud-Gap Filled Daily Snow Map

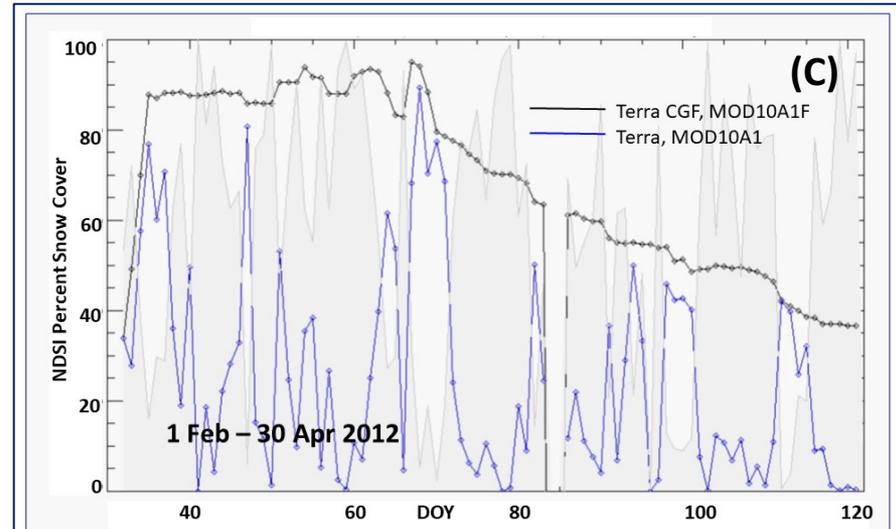


Daily Snow Map with Cloud



Comparison of Terra CGF and the standard Terra snow maps

The cloud-gap filled (CGF) MODIS product provides a consistent and continuous cloud free snow cover map (A) compared to the daily snow cover product (B) that has clouds which cause gaps in a time series of snow observations. The CGF maps are able to capture snow buildup and depletion (C), for example in Wind River Range, Wyoming, 1 Feb to 30 April 2012 (C).





Status of MODIS Cryosphere Products



Dorothy Hall¹ and George Riggs²
¹ESSIC / University of Maryland, ²SSAI

MODIS Snow Cover Product

Collection 6.1:

- New -- M*D10A1F: Daily Cloud-gap-filled product
MODIS/Terra/Aqua L3 500 m SIN Grid
- M*D10_L2 revised algorithm and data content, improved snow cover detection

Status and Updates:

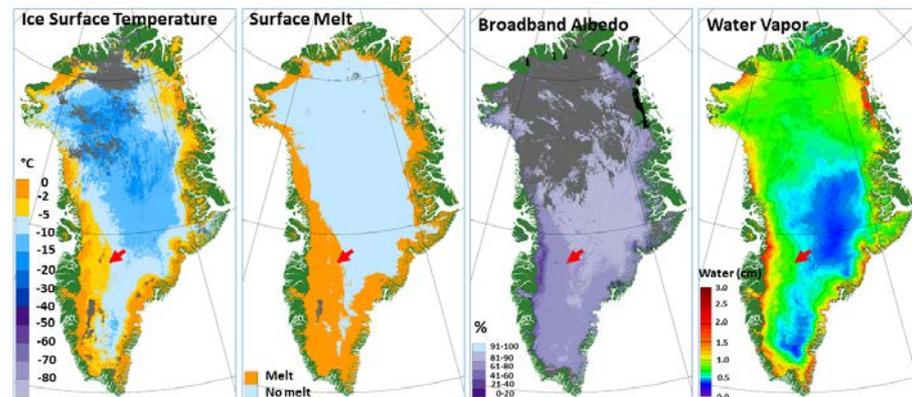
- Snow cover algorithm: revised low visible reflectance screen and added two algorithm QA bit flags
- Product user guides updated for C6.1

Known Issues:

- Investigating cloud/snow confusion and affect of aerosols on the snow cover algorithm

Recent Publications:

- Hall, D.K., R.I. Cullather, J.C. Comiso, N.E. DiGirolamo, S.M. Nowicki and B.C. Medley, 2018: A multilayer IST – albedo product of Greenland from MODIS, *Remote Sensing [Special Issue: Remote Sensing of Essential Climate Variables and their Applications]*. Feature Paper. 10(4), 555; <https://doi:10.3390/rs10040555>.
- Hall, D.K., A. Frei and N.E. DiGirolamo, 2018: On the frequency of lake-effect snowfall in the Catskill Mountains, *Physical Geography*, <https://doi:10.1080/02723646.2018.1440827>.
- Riggs, G.A., D.K. Hall and M.O. Román, 2017: Overview of NASA's MODIS and Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS) snow-cover Earth System Data Records, *Earth System Data Records*, 9:765-777, <https://www.earth-syst-sci-data-discuss.net/essd-2017-25/>.



A unique MODIS multi-layer Greenland IST and surface albedo product was generated by our team and is archived at NSIDC.



Status of MODIS Long Term VI Time Series



MODIS VI Suite (in its 19th year)

Collection 5: (Suspended in 2018)

Collection 6: (Released in 2015)

Collection 7: (In prep)

Status and Updates:

- Improved QA compositing scheme
- Multiple and ongoing algorithm adjustments to deal with changes in upstream products and/or issues
- Ongoing opportunistic validation (using NEON data)

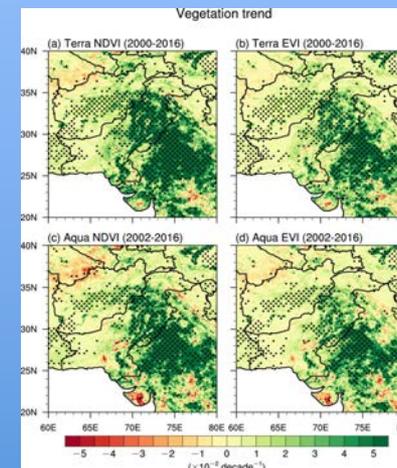
Known Issues:

- The 2010 (C6) decision to use pre-composited 8-day surface reflectance inputs is causing spatial consistency issues that will be addressed in C6.1/C7

Recent Publications:

- Jarchow, C. J., Didan, K., Barreto-Muñoz, A., et al. (2018). Application and Comparison of the MODIS-Derived Enhanced Vegetation Index to VIIRS, Landsat 5 TM and Landsat 8 OLI Platforms: A Case Study in the Arid Colorado River Delta, Mexico. *Sensors*, 18(5), 1546.
- EL-Vilaly, M. A. S., Didan, K, et al. (2018). Characterizing Drought Effects on Vegetation Productivity in the Four Corners Region of the US Southwest. *Sustainability*, 10(5), 1643.
- El-Vilaly MA, Didan K, et al. Vegetation productivity responses to drought on tribal lands in the four corners region of the Southwest USA. *Frontiers of Earth Science*. 2017 May:1-5. DOI 10.1007/s11707-017-0646-z
- Peng D, Zhang X, Wu C, Huang W, et al. Intercomparison and evaluation of spring phenology products using National Phenology Network and AmeriFlux observations in the contiguous United States. *Agricultural and forest meteorology*. 2017 Aug 15;242:33-46.

MODIS NDVI/EVI product suite continues to lead and drive science and applications with more than 12,000 publications mentioning and/or using the MODIS NDVI/EVI time series, with multiple high end journal articles appearing annually.



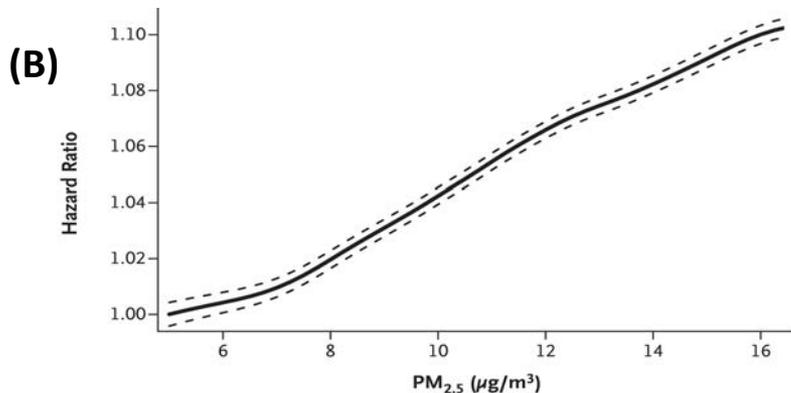
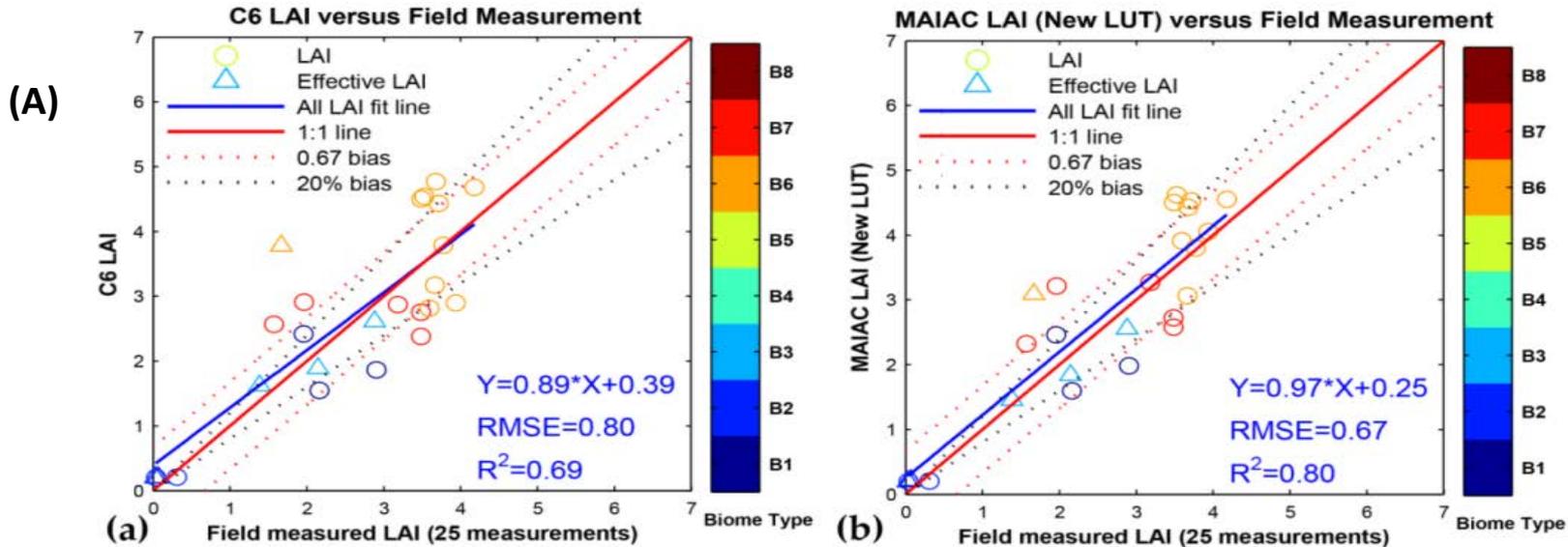
Jin, Q., & Wang, C. (2018). The greening of Northwest Indian subcontinent and reduction of dust abundance resulting from Indian summer monsoon revival. *Scientific reports*, 8(1), 4573.



Advancing MODIS-VIIRS Climate Data Records with Algorithm MAIAC

Alexei Lyapustin¹, Yujie Wang², Sergey Korkin³, Dong Huang⁴

¹NASA GSFC; ²UMBC; ³USRA; ⁴SSAI

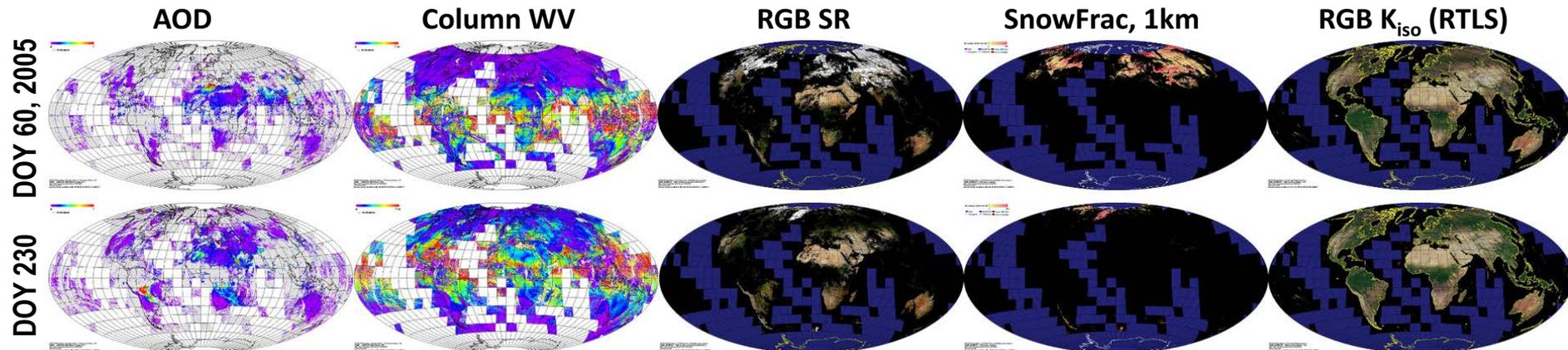


Risk of death (7.3%) at 10µg/m³ increase in PM_{2.5} (Di et al., Air Pollution and Mortality in the Medicare Population, *The New England Journal of Medicine*, doi: 10.1056/NEJMoa1702747)

MAIAC MODIS algorithm improves the quality of cloud/snow detection, aerosol retrievals and atmospheric correction. (A) Chen et al., (2017) showed improvement in LAI retrieval when using MAIAC surface reflectance as input; (B) Di et al. (2017) shows the risk of mortality curve as a function of air quality at PM_{2.5} levels well below the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (35µg/m³). National daily 1km PM_{2.5} for this study (2000-2012) was obtained using MAIAC AOD from MODIS.



Status of MODIS MAIAC (MCD19)



MCD19 Product Suite

Collection 6: (Released in Spring of 2018)

- MCD19A1: Surface Reflectance
 - Daily L3 1 km: BRDF in bands 1-12; Snow grain size and snow fraction;
 - Daily L3 500 m: BRDF in bands 1-7;
- MCD19A2: Atmospheric properties
 - Daily L3 1 km: CM, AOD, CWV, Plume Injection Height (for detected smoke)
- MCD19A3: BRDF/Albedo
 - 8-Day L3 1 km: RTLS BRDF, instantaneous albedo in bands 1-8;

Status and Updates:

- Fixing known issues for C6.1

Known Issues:

- Regional aerosol models cause AOD discontinuity in 3 regions (Sahel, Southern Africa, West India)
- Detection of sea ice
- Seasonality of aerosol models (to add)
- Missing some bright salt pans

Recent Publications:

- Lyapustin et al., 2018. MODIS Collection 6 MAIAC Algorithm, *Atm. Meas. Techniques*, doi:10.5194/amt-2018-141.
- Cooper et al., 2018. Assessing snow extent data sets over North America to inform and improve trace gas retrievals from solar backscatter, *Atm. Meas. Techniques*, doi:10.5194/amt-11-2983-2018.
- Liang F. et al., 2018. MAIAC-based Long-term Spatiotemporal Trends of PM2.5 in Beijing China, *Science of The Total Environment*, doi: 10.1016/j.scitotenv.2017.10.155.
- Chen et al., 2017. Prototyping of LAI and FPAR Retrievals from MODIS Multi-Angle Implementation of Atmospheric Correction (MAIAC) Data. *Remote Sensing*, doi:10.3390/rs9040370



Status of MODIS LAI/FPAR



MODIS LAI/FPAR Product

Collection 6: (Released in 2015)

- MOD15A2H: MODIS/Terra 8-Day L4 500 m SIN Grid
- MYD15A2H: MODIS/Aqua 8-Day L4 500 m SIN Grid
- MCD15A2H: MODIS/Terra+Aqua 8-Day L4 500 m SIN Grid
- MCD15A3H: MODIS/Terra+Aqua 4-Day L4 500 m SIN Grid

Status and Updates:

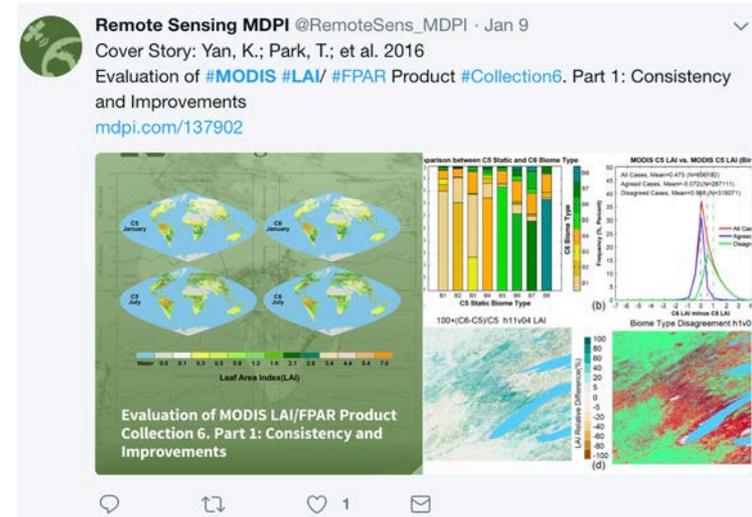
- L2G–lite 500 meter surface reflectance used as input, instead of reflectance at 1km resolution MODAGAGG .
- New multi-year land cover product at 500m resolution, in place of the 1km resolution static land cover product.

Known Issues:

- N/A.

Recent Publications:

- Chen et al., (under review). China and India lead in greening of the world through land-use management. **Nature Sustainability**.
- Xu et al., 2018. An integrated method for validating long-term leaf area index products using global networks of site-based measurements. **Remote Sens. Environ.**, doi:10.1016/j.rse.2018.02.049
- Chen et al., 2017. Prototyping of LAI and FPAR Retrievals from MODIS Multi-Angle Implementation of Atmospheric Correction (MAIAC) Data. **Remote Sensing**, doi:10.3390/rs9040370



ARTICLES

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41893-017-0004-x>

nature
sustainability

Increased vegetation growth and carbon stock in China karst via ecological engineering

Xiaowei Tong¹, Martin Brandt², Yuemin Yue^{1,3*}, Stephanie Horion², Kelin Wang^{1,3*}, Wanda De Keersmaecker⁴, Feng Tian², Guy Schurgers², Xiangming Xiao^{5,6}, Yiqi Luo^{5,7,8}, Chi Chen⁹, Ranga Myneni⁹, Zheng Shi², Hongsong Chen^{1,3} and Rasmus Fensholt²

nature
ecology & evolution

ARTICLES

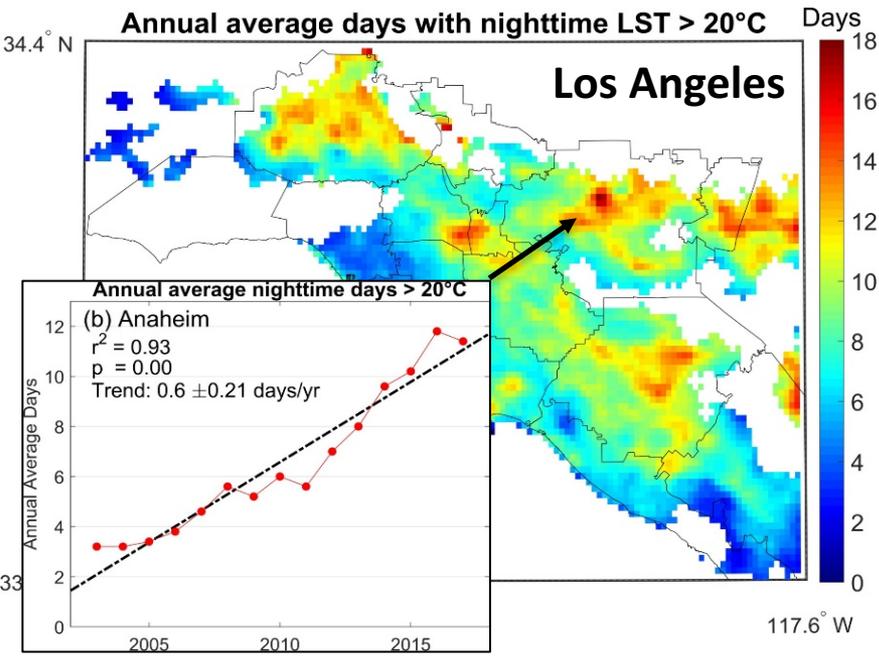
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41559-018-0630-3>

Coupling of ecosystem-scale plant water storage and leaf phenology observed by satellite

Feng Tian^{1,2*}, Jean-Pierre Wigneron^{3*}, Philippe Ciais⁴, Jérôme Chave⁵, Jérôme Ogée³, Josep Peñuelas^{6,7}, Anders Ræbild⁸, Jean-Christophe Domec⁸, Xiaoye Tong², Martin Brandt², Arnaud Mialon⁹, Nemesio Rodriguez-Fernandez⁹, Torbern Tagesson^{1,2}, Amen Al-Yaari¹, Yann Kerr⁹, Chi Chen¹⁰, Ranga B. Myneni¹⁰, Wenmin Zhang², Jonas Ardö¹ and Rasmus Fensholt²



MODIS LST Detects Rising Temperatures and Heat Wave Trends in Urban Environments



Hulley et al. 2018, RSE

New MOD21 LST product can pinpoint current and future communities that are most vulnerable to the detrimental effects of heat waves and extreme heat in urban areas. Heat vulnerability maps derived from this data can advise local governments on effective climate adaption and mitigation strategies.

LETTER

doi:10.1038/nature13462

Strong contributions of local background climate to urban heat islands

Lei Zhao^{1,2}, Xuhui Lee^{1,2}, Ronald B. Smith³ & Keith Oleson⁴

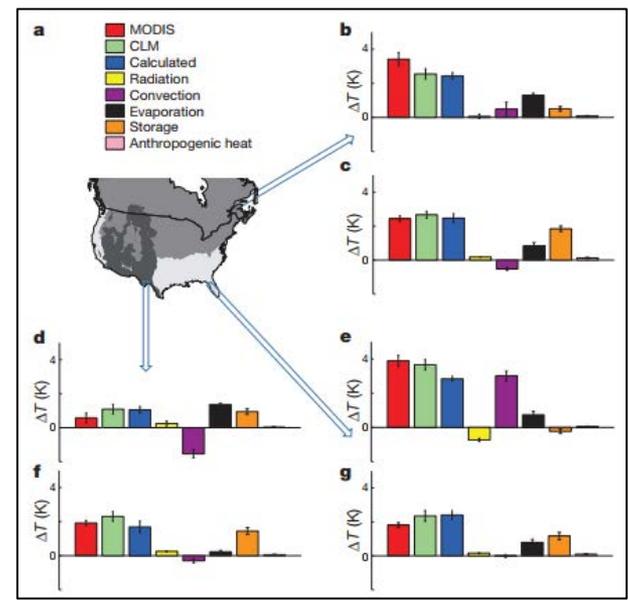
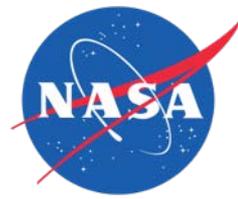


Figure 2 | Attribution of UHI intensity in three Köppen-Geiger climate zones. **a**, Map of climate zones: white, mild temperate/mesothermal climate; grey, continental/microthermal climate; dark grey, dry climate. **b, d, e**, Daytime values of MODIS and modelled ΔT and its component contributions in each of the three zones (see arrows). **c, f, g**, Night-time values in each of the three zones (see arrows). Green bars denote model-predicted ΔT and blue bars denote UHI intensity calculated as the sum of the component contributions. Error bars, 1 s.e. for each climate zone.



Status of MODIS LST&E



Status and Updates:

- New LST&E product in Collection 6, reprocessing underway at MODAPS. Release Fall 2018
- All issues with product/code resolved. All attributes, metadata, browse images cleared by LPDAAC

MOD21 LST&E Products:

Collection 6: (Release Fall 2018)

- MxD21 L2: Daily 5-min L2 Swath 1km
- MxD21A1: Daily L3 Global 1km
- MxD21A2 8-day L3 Global 1km

Collection 6.1: (Release 2019)

- MxD21C1: Daily 0.05 degree Climate Modeling Grid (CMG)
- MxD21C2: 8-day 0.05 degree Climate Modeling Grid (CMG)
- MxD21C3: Monthly 0.05 degree Climate Modeling Grid (CMG)

Known Issues:

- Limited support through next funding cycle resulting in semi-orphaned products.
- LST&E (MxD11/MxD21) have 10 different product types! Results in user confusion, reduced usability.
- No support or plan forward to retire MxD11 suite of products. Requires analyzing and comparing MxD11/MxD21 products. Potential to reduce to 5 product types from MxD21 (JPL product).

Publications/Documentation:

- *Hulley, G. C., Malakar, N., Islam, T., Freepartner, R, (2017), NASA's MODIS and VIIRS Land Surface Temperature and Emissivity Products: A Consistent and High Quality Earth System Data Record, IEEE TGRS, DOI: 10.1109/JSTARS.2017.2779330.*
- *Malakar, N. K., and G. C. Hulley (2016), A water vapor scaling model for improved land surface temperature and emissivity separation of MODIS thermal infrared data, Remote Sensing of Environment, 182, 252-264*
- *User guide and ATBD available at: <https://modis.gsfc.nasa.gov/data/dataproduct/mod21.php>*